

DFB-19870

2523-52

From  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
To

July 26, 1962

CONFIDENTIAL  
FBI SPECIAL MESSAGE CENTER

Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 K Street, Northwest  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick  
Assistant Director for Special Operations

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am attaching hereto communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ENCL

IR COPY

A. Bagshaw  
OZ 9/27/62

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEARCHED.....	SERIALIZED.....	INDEXED.....	FILED.....
APR 17 1952		67145/3	CCW 11 1952
WILSON, MARTIN P.		CHARACTER OF CASE	
VITELLO PORNANIS, INC.		INTERNAL SECURITY - R. S.	

## STANDARD INFORMATION

Subject has denied and denied ever having been a member of any Communist organization, or having possessed a membership card indicating such membership. Records of F-1 reflect subject has not been assigned to a military unit in the District of Columbia and has had no military activity here. There is no indication subject is engaged in any activities related to the interests of the United States.

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## DETAILS AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Subject was interviewed on April 22, 1952, by the writer and Special Agent ROBERT E. LEWINSON. Subject advised that his parents fled from Riga, Latvia, in 1915 and resided in Rabinik, Russia, to avoid German domination during World War I. Subject stated he was born in Rabinik, Russia, in 1919. In 1920 when Latvia was free from German domination his parents returned with him to Riga, Latvia, where he continued to live until 1944.

PORNANIS stated that his father, MARTIN P. PORNANIS, was employed as a controller in the city government of Riga until his retirement in 1940. For several years his father was active as a Social Democrat, but in 1927 gave up all political activities. PORNANIS described his father as anti-Communist, but stated he was placed in the position of Commissioner

AGENCY OR FIELD COMMISSIONED	OPTIONAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
REASON FOR THIS REPORT				
5 Bureau (105-1036)				
1 Detroit (66-1940) (Info) RM				
2 New York (100-17101) (Info) RM				
3 Washington Field (105-682)				

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Subject stated he had the opportunity to defend himself. Subject explained that he was not present at the University and that he did not know any members of the Riga University and that he did not know any members of the Riga police and that he did not know any members of the KGB. Subject stated he had no further questions. Subject signed his name and gave it to this document.

Subject stated he was born in 1940. "WIMI" was terminated in April, 1940, and subject was allowed to eight weeks travelling around Latvia or Soviet Russia. He saw many students in Riga. Subject indicated that he had no residence and had no established residence in Riga at the time. In 1940, he stated that travel was not restricted. WIMI stated he had been released from Riga shortly after the country without giving any reason and was released by the Latvian authorities. WIMI stated the German forces took over Latvia in June, 1940, and he returned to Riga early October last month. He said he was almost immediately arrested by the German authorities and remained until now in the Central Prison of Riga which is now controlled by the Germans for alleged Communist activities. He advised he was not questioned in connection with the disappearance of PRIVATE HELMUT HANKE. Subject stated he had not explained that he and some friends had occupied a building in Riga which had been confiscated by the Nazis as a Government building and a prison. Subject stated he was released from the building at about the same time as his father and his, the subject, was work made to do cleaning and helped in the removal of the papers. Subject stated he was informed of the nature of their contents and finally convinced him German administration of Riga that he would soon be released. He claimed he was not released until November 1941 during the uprising. Following his release was avoided by both the pro-German and pro-German factions in the city of Riga. Subject stated that his release by the Germans was due to the fact that he had sent his father sometime previously to Poland to find a place to live so that his father sometime previous had called a man named HANKE, a German citizen, to escape from Russia to Germany after the Germans had become stranded behind Polish territorial lines.

Subject stated he entered the University of Riga in 1940 and maintained his studies until May, 1941 when he was graduated. He paid his tuition during most of this period was provided by his parents. In July, 1941, subject was married to JANE HANKE, a citizen of Riga. Shortly following their marriage the two were consigned to a forced labor camp at Bruck-on-Mur, Austria, for a period of nine months. Following their release

APPENDIX C

From the above show subject and his wife were residents of a Latvian displaced persons camp at Neuwillingen, Germany, until their departure for the United States in February, 1947.

Subject stated he and his wife, GATON, arrived in the United States at New York City in February, 1947, and planned to go direct to Detroit, Michigan, where they remained in contact with his wife's mother and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. CHAS. K. SCHAFER. Subject did not obtain permanent employment as a First-class Mutual Fund Salesman, and remained in that employ until June, 1951, at which time he came to Washington, D. C. Subject advised he came to particular reason for locating Washington, D. C., as a place of residence, except that he wanted to seek a new means of livelihood due to adverse climate. He said he knew no one in the city and the only prospect of employment with the King Merritt Company as a mutual fund security salesman. Subject stated he had told some persons in Detroit that he was taking a position with the State Department but this was only a misfortune as he had never intended seeking Government employment. Subject stated he and his wife had separated prior to his coming to Washington and that she is presently residing in New York City. He stated that divorce proceedings had already begun in Detroit before he left that city.

FORMANIS advised that his time in Washington, D. C., has been taken up with applying himself to learning his new work and seeking new clients for mutual fund securities. Subject stated he had used a Latvian language newspaper published in New York City as a medium of advertising and has received considerable number of inquiries by mail from Latvian and Lithuanian sources for literature explaining mutual fund investments. Subject stated his residence in Washington, D. C., from time until the end of 1951 was 4507 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Apartment 608.

FORMANIS advised that in December, 1951, the divorce proceedings were completed in Detroit, Michigan, and he was married in Washington, D. C., on February 2, 1952, to JANINA TERESA SCHAFER, a Latvian displaced person from Detroit, Michigan.

Subject stated that in September, 1950, he entered Wayne University in Detroit, Michigan, and in December, 1950, joined the Military Intelligence Reserve for three years. His military serial number is ER 16149509. Subject

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stated he attended military training programs in Detroit, but has not attended any meetings or been assigned to any military unit in the District of Columbia. Subject advised he had been placed in a Russian language unit in the U.S. Army Ordnance Reserve in Detroit because of his knowledge of the Russian language.

Subject stated he advised that he applied for and filed his first citizenship papers in 1947 and intends to file for the petition for Naturalization in the near future in the immediate future. Subject stated that neither his first nor his present wife are American citizens. He said he desired to become an American citizen and has no intention of returning to Latvia or to Latvia.

When questioned concerning ARTHUR BAGATAIS of New York City, subject stated that he was only a slight acquaintance with that individual and has seen him only a very few times. Subject stated BAGATAIS is supposed to be a good friend of JAMES LEE CLARK, JR., of Detroit, Michigan, who is a sister of GENE ROGANIS, subject's first wife. Subject stated he knows nothing of any Communist activities or sympathies on the part of BAGATAIS, except that JAMES LEE CLARK, JR., had mentioned on one occasion that he became involved with some Communist group several years ago through membership in a maritime union in New York City while employed as a Merchant Seaman. Subject said that he has no reason to believe that BAGATAIS is pro-Communist and has no other knowledge concerning his activities or sympathies.

When asked if subject ever participated directly concerning his own activities and those of the Communist Party, subject stated that he had never been a member of the Communist Party or a member of the Communist Party youth movement. He stated that he had never been the holder of a card of any kind which related to any Communist organization. POMALE said the only card he could recall having ever held in his possession was the card he held while employed with the Merchant Marine in Latvia. Subject stated he could not recall having issued this card or any other card on any occasion for the purpose of establishing himself as a Communist or a representative of the Communist movement. Subject said this card was surrendered by him when his employment with the government was terminated. Subject further denied having written any articles in a newspaper praising the Soviet Union or discrediting his native country.

**SECRET**

REVIEW OF ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE  
AND ASSASSINATION OF LEADERSHIP  
IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA  
BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA  
AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CUBA  
IN CONVERSATION WITH THE DIA  
IN BEIJING, CHINA ON JANUARY 1, 1982,  
BY WILLIAM F. GRIFFITH, DIA ATTACHE, CHINA  
DIA ATTACHE'S OFFICE.

DISCUSSIONS THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT IN PRESENTLY ORGANIZED  
GROUPS ACTIVITIES UNLAWFUL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. THE  
DISCUSSION OF ASSASSINATION IN CONVERSATION WITH THE DIA NOTTING IS BEING  
MADE IN A CLOSED STATUS UNLESS INSTRUCTIONS FROM AUTHORITY ARE RECEIVED  
FROM THE DIA.

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